

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3403
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2018**

IMPROVEMENT OF CONDITION OF POWER SECTOR

†3403. SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY:

**Will the Minister of POWER
be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of the steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of power sector;**
- (b) whether the power plants in the country are running on less than 65% of the plant load factor at present and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether a large number of assets are lying idle due to non-availability of gas from domestic sources to the gas based power plants;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether the Government proposes to take measures to increase the production capacity of power plants and to provide gas from the domestic sources to the gas based power plants?**

A N S W E R

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER AND
NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY**

(SHRI R. K. SINGH)

(a) : The details of steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of the Power Sector are as under:-

- Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY) scheme has been launched by Central Government for improving operational and financial efficiency of DISCOMS.**
- Operational efficiency in generation, transmission and distribution has been enhanced progressively in cost plus tariff regime through performance based regulatory approach mandated in the Tariff Policy.**

- **Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojna (DDUGJY) has been launched to provide funding to States for feeder separation, electrification of all un-electrified villages and households, metering of distribution transformers/feeders/consumers for rural areas.**
- **Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) has been launched to provide funding to States for strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution system in the urban areas.**
- **Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (SAUBHAGYA) scheme has been launched to achieve universal household electrification by providing last mile connectivity and electricity connections to all households in rural and urban areas.**
- **State specific action plans for providing 24x7 power for all households, homes, industrial and commercial consumers and adequate supply of power to agriculture consumers as per State policy have been prepared.**
- **Transmission capacity has been augmented to remove transmission constraints.**
- **Government of India launched National Smart Grid Mission, on March 2015, for optimal utilization of generation, transmission and distribution assets.**

(b) : During the current year 2017-18 (upto February, 2018), the average Plant Load Factor (PLF) of coal and lignite based stations was 60.24%. The average PLF of the gas based stations, including the capacity run of imported gas, was 23%.

(c) & (d) : The total gas based installed capacity in the country is 25,150 MW and the gas required for this capacity is around 114 Million Metric Standard Cubic Meters per Day (MMSCMD). Against this requirement, only 22.91 MMSCMD domestic gas was supplied to the gas based power stations in the year 2017-18. As a result many gas based power plants are not operating at their full potential and some of them are not at all operating.

(e) : The Government has taken steps to augment production of natural gas from the gas fields/wells by awarding gas blocks for Exploration & Production activities in various sedimentary basins of the country under the Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP) formulated in March, 2016. In addition to this, the Government has also formulated Policy for marketing freedom for gas produced from Deepwater & Ultra Deepwater areas.
